AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Claims 1-15 (previously cancelled)

Claim 16-28 (Cancelled)

29. (New): A system for the display of symbols which enables a visual recognition of defective segments, the system comprising:

a liquid crystal display having:

a transparent first plate, the first plate having transparent at least one conductive segments in a display area to represent symbols and at least one conductive inverse segment which fills out the area surrounding at least one conductive segments; and

a second plate facing the first plate, wherein the second plate is conductive in regions that are opposite the at least one conductive segments in the first plate;

a liquid crystalline substance located in the space between the first and second plate; and

an actuation device for the selective activation of the at least one conductive segments and of the at least one inverse segment, wherein the activation system for a time interval, allows simultaneous activation of the at least one conductive segments and of the at least one inverse segment, such that during the time interval it is possible to recognize failure of any portion of at least one conductive segments by their inverse appearance relative to the at least one inverse segment.

30. (New): The system of claim 29, wherein an electrical potential is applied separately to the at least one conductive segments and to the at least one inverse segment.

31. (New): The system of claim 29, wherein the shape and size of the regions on the second plate essentially correspond to the at least one conductive segments of the first plate.

32. (New): The system of claim 29, wherein the second plate has at least one inverse segment the shape and size of which essentially corresponds to that of the at least one inverse segment of the first plate.

33. (New): The system of claim 29, wherein the second plate and its conductive regions are transparent.

34. (New): The system of claim 29, wherein the second plate is reflective or a reflecting layer is located behind the second plate.

35. (New): The system of claim 29, further comprising two polarizers between which the liquid crystalline substance is disposed.

36. (New): The system of claim 29, further comprising a switch which can initiate a simultaneous activation of the segments and of the at least one inverse segment.

37. (New): A method for operating a liquid crystal display which enables visual recognition of defective segments, using a liquid crystal display having a first and a second plate which face one another and a liquid crystalline substance located in the space between the first and second plate, the first plate being transparent and having essentially transparent conductive segments in a display area to represent symbols and the second plate being conductive at least in the regions that are opposite to the conductive segments of the first plate, and the first plate has at least one conductive inverse segment which fills out the area surrounding at least one of the conductive segments, the method comprising:

a) simultaneously activating all conductive segments of the first plate and of the at least one inverse segment for a first time interval to enable an observer to detect failed conductive segments by their inverse appearance relative to the at least one inverse segment; and

b) displaying symbols by activating the conductive segments to be displayed, and the conductive segments that are not to be displayed and the at least one inverse segment remain inactivated.

38. (New): The method of claim 37, wherein the display area appears dark when carrying out step a) and defective signals stand out bright.

39. (New): The method of claim 37, wherein the display area appears bright when carrying out step a) and defective signals stand out dark.

40. (New): The method of claim 37, wherein symbols are displayed in step b) by activating the segments that are not to be displayed and all existing inverse segments.